

Camp at Boston August 7<sup>th</sup> 1725

My Dear Friend

I know it will give you pleasure to hear that I arrived safe here in good health last Sunday after a very tedious passage of near Eight Weeks, in short we had not four & twenty hours fair Wind from the time we left England till We got here.

I shall now attempt to give you some little Description of our present Situation (though I can't say I think you deserve it as you have never wrote once to me since I left you at Ratisbone) I can't say that our affairs wear the best face possible, but there is an old saying that when things are as bad as can be they must mend. We are in a Town almost deserted by its inhabitants situated upon a Peninsula with a very narrow neck



A Land that runs out into the country, thro' which  
We have very strongly fortified, on all other sides of as  
are small arms of the Sea, where our Men of War & transports  
In they are all armed lie at Anchor. Opposite our Lines  
upon the heights & indeed all round us, the Americans  
are encamped to about the number of 30 thousand & have  
flung up some of the Strongest Works I suppose ever seen  
So that We are totally Blockaded by these rebellious  
Scoundrells; We every now and then make little Excursions  
& attack them & burn a few of their Houses, but not having  
sufficient force, never venture out far into the country.  
There was a very serious affair happened the 17 of June  
which I suppose you have heard of, but in case you  
should not, here it is, opposite this Town on the other side  
the smallest arm of the Sea, lay Charleston a very pretty  
well built Town, one ~~night~~ <sup>the</sup> morning early the Lovely frigate  
<sup>who is stationed there</sup> discovered a Work that the Rebels were working very hard at  
and had nearly finished upon the heights above Charleston



They had then mounted 4 pieces of cannon & meant the next day  
to have battered Boston about our ears, this vessel gave the alarm  
& the troops were ordered to ~~land~~ land & attack them, the  
ships covered our landing & by all accounts there never was  
so severe a fire kept up for about one hour & half as that  
day. We had a very high hill to march up upon the top of  
which was this strong redoubt where the Enemy were covered up  
to the chin; all the way as the troops came up the hill were  
large rails, so that the men were obliged to ground their arms  
to get over them & exposed all this while to the Enemy's fire  
& to the fire from Charles Town which was lined by them  
& which lay upon our left flank. Our men behaved remarkably  
well & every one says there never was a more glorious day  
for the Officers known after about 3 hours <sup>our troops</sup> they made themselves  
masters of the redoubt <sup>& cannon</sup> & General Howe who commanded now  
remains Master of the ground where <sup>he</sup> is encamped & has fortified  
himself very strongly. We had about eleven hundred killed  
& wounded <sup>and</sup> which number 93 were officers. They talk  
of attacking us every day but I don't think they dare, I wish



they may be we are very well prepared. I forget to say that  
we burnt the Town of Charleston to the ground.

our Wounded Men recover very slowly as we have nothing  
to eat but Salt Pork & peas & rice & then fish, I have tasted  
fresh meat twice since I came here.

Adieu write to me soon & give me an account  
of every thing that is going on in your part of the World  
& believe me

My Dearest Friend

ever yours

My love to Susan & all that ask  
after me.

Thos Stanley

I have wrote by this post to the Queen & desired her when she  
writes to send you for not writing to me. I wish you would